UNITED
NATIONS

TD

United Nations Conference
on Trade and Development

DISTR.
GENERAL

TD/B/39(2)/24
31 March 1993

Original: ENGLISH

TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Thirty-ninth session
Second part
Geneva, 15 March 1993
Agenda item 4

DEVELOPMENTS AND ISSUES IN THE URUGUAY ROUND OF PARTICULAR CONCERN TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

MESSAGE FROM THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD TO THE GOVERNMENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE URUGUAY ROUND OF MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

1. The Trade and Development Board of UNCTAD at the second part of its thirty-ninth session, held in Geneva from 15 to 26 March 1993, considered developments and issues in the Uruguay Round of particular concern to developing countries. In this context, the members of the Board stress that an early and successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round should be viewed as a prerequisite to a return to the path of growth, trade expansion and an improved world economic climate. It is the only way to strengthen the international trading system at present and to give confidence to developing countries and economies in transition that would encourage their economic and trade liberalization reforms.

2. The Draft Final Act of the Uruguay Round should be finalized in a balanced manner, taking into account all issues of interest to developing countries and their development, financial and trade needs in accordance with the Punta del Este Declaration and be supplemented by a comprehensive market access package on goods and services, in particular covering items of export interest to developing countries. Special attention should also be given to the problems of the least developed countries with a view to integrating them in the global trading system. An evaluation of the results of the Uruguay Round from the point of view of the developing countries is foreseen in Part I, Section G, of the Punta del Este Declaration.

3. The members of the Board recognize the urgency of all Governments participating in the Uruguay Round, and in particular the major trading nations, exercising fully their responsibilities and leadership, and attributing the highest political priority to bringing these negotiations to an early and successful conclusion.